

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 1-12, 14-30 and 32-39 are pending.

In the Office Action of April 19, 2005, applicant raised the submission of U.S. Patent 6,414,257, on an Information Disclosure Statement filed February 25, 2004. This patent should not have been cited. The correct patent is U.S. 6,515,257 which was cited on the IDS filed concurrently with the application. The applicant thanks the Examiner for bringing this error to our attention.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 11, 22, 23 and 27-29 for minor informalities. These informalities include the use of characters in the claims. The claims have been amended to remove any objectionable matter.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-26, 31, 34, 36 and 37 as containing phrases which were unclear and indefinite. Applicant has carefully reviewed the claims to correct any phrases deemed to be indefinite.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 27, 28, 30, 33, 35, 36 and 38 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,515,257 (Jain et al). Claims 7, 9 and 29 were rejected as obvious over Jain et al. and claims 4, 15-24, 34 and 37 were rejected as being obvious over Jain et al. in view of U.S. Patent 6,570,424 (Tanaka). Claims 13, 14, 25, 26, 31 and 32 were indicated containing allowable subject matter. By this Amendment, claim 13 has been cancelled and the subject matter inserted into claim 1. Likewise, claim 31 has been cancelled and the subject matter inserted into claim 27. Independent claim 15, rejected as being obvious over Jain et al. in view of Tanaka and new independent claim 39 remain in the application.

In the rejection of claim 15, the Examiner relied upon Tanaka for disclosing an array of mutually crossed cylindrical lens elements. The Examiner refers to array 202. However, lens array 202 divides the laser radiation in the horizontal plane, as seen in the top view of Figure 2. The array does not focus

the laser radiation onto mirror 207. In addition, mirror 207 is not an influencing element but just a plain single mirror. Based on the disclosure of Tanaka, it would not have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the cylindrical array of lens elements 202 disclosed by Tanaka with the apparatus disclosed by Jain et al.

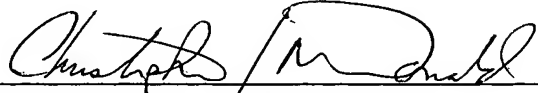
New claim 39 is essentially a combination of claims 1, 19 and 23. This claim is patentable as Jain et al. does not disclose two arrays of mirrors. Jain et al. discloses one single mirror 37 and one array 12 of mirror elements 39, 41. The invention discloses and claims two arrays of mirrors having a plurality of mirror elements. Both arrays of mirrors are positioned behind the array of lens elements as seen in Figure 1. In Figure 1 of Jain et al., the array 10 of lens elements is positioned between the mirror 37 and the array 12 of mirror elements 39, 41. Figure 6 shows one array 12 of mirror elements. Column 10, lines 16-35 do not describe an apparatus with two arrays of mirrors nor does Jain et al. describe the possibility of generating asymmetrically impinging beams.

With reference to the figure attached to this response, asymmetrical beams are shown in red and green reflected by two movable separate mirror elements. Red shows a first position of a mirror element with green showing a second position. In the invention, two independent movable arrays of mirror elements make possible the generation of impinging beams. Such an ability is not possible with the apparatus disclosed by Jain et al.

The claims are allowable over the prior art and favorable action is duly and earnestly solicited. If any issues remain, and the Examiner believes a telephone conversation would resolve such issues, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney.

If any fees are due and owing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account 08-2455.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher J. McDonald", written over a horizontal line.

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